

17 December 1969

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MEMORANDUM NO. 20-22-6

SUBJECT: Random Selection for Military Service

1. The purpose of this Memorandum is to explain the procedures which will apply under the new random selection system for induction starting with Calendar Year 1970. In summary, the new system established a method of selecting draftees from each year's pool of I-A's, relying on chance from a lottery for the order of call rather than on selection by the local boards. Local boards still have the authority and responsibility to register individuals upon reaching age 18, to call them for examinations, and to rule whether a registrant is to be deferred, exempted, or classified I-A at any given time. There is no change in the Agency's military deferment policy as outlined [redacted] 11 September 1969.

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2. By Executive Order No. 11497, dated 26 November 1969, the President amended the Selective Service Regulations to prescribe a random selection system for induction commencing in January 1970. Registrants will be selected and ordered to report for induction in the following categories and in the order indicated.

Priority 1 - Delinquents who have attained the age of 19, the oldest being selected first.

Priority 2 - Volunteers under age 26, in the order in which they have volunteered.

Priority 3 - Nonvolunteers in Calendar Year Selection Groups in the order of their random selection sequence numbers which have been determined by lottery as explained in paragraph 3 below.

Priority 4 - Nonvolunteers who attain the age of 19 years during the Calendar Year, with the oldest being selected first.

Priority 5 - Nonvolunteers who have attained the age of 26, with the youngest being selected first.

Priority 6 - Nonvolunteers between the age of 18 years and 6 months and 19.

3. The order of call of nonvolunteers within Calendar Year Selection Groups (Priority 3) is determined by randomly drawing 366 days to represent birthdays (month and day only) to establish line numbers and then by randomly drawing the 26 letters of the alphabet. These letters, equating to the first letter of the registrant's last name, will be used to determine the order of selection within a given line number.

a. Calendar Year 1970. The drawing held on 1 December 1969, the results of which are shown on the attachment, established the random selection sequence numbers for the "1970 Selection Group." This group consists of nonvolunteers classified I-A who were born on or after 1 January 1944 and on or before 31 December 1950. Members of the "1970 Selection Group" on 31 December 1970, whose random sequence numbers have not been reached by that date, will be assigned to the priority group which is immediately below the "First Priority Selection Group" for 1971.

b. 1971 and Later Years. For Calendar Year 1971, and for each subsequent year, a new "First Priority Selection Group" will be established by lottery. This group will consist of nonvolunteers in Class I-A who prior to 1 January of each such Calendar Year have reached age 19 and of nonvolunteers who have reached age 19 but not age 26 and who during that year are classified I-A following expiration of a deferment or exemption. Members of each such "First Priority Selection Group" on 31 December of the respective Calendar Year whose random sequence numbers are not reached by that date will be assigned to successively lower priority groups so that those who were in the "1970 Selection Group" and who move into a lower group at the end of 1970 will be in the lowest such group, those who were in the 1971 "First Priority Selection Group" will be in the next to the lowest such group, and so forth.

4. The random sequence number established for any registrant applies to him so long as he remains subject to draft. For example,

a registrant who holds a deferment of some kind throughout 1970, for college or any other reason, will become draftable in a later year when his deferment expires unless he has reached age 26 in the meantime. During that year, his draft priority will be the same as that set by the drawing held on 1 December 1969.

5. It is conceivable that a registrant classified I-A whose random sequence number has been reached may have his induction delayed pending the outcome of an appeal or other pending action. If not reclassified, such registrant will be ordered to report for induction when the delay is concluded, even if the year in which he otherwise would have been ordered to report has ended and even if (in the case of extended liability) he has reached age 26.

6. Questions on this subject may be referred [redacted]

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Robert S. Wattles
Director of Personnel

Attachment

OPM 36-69

A DRAFTEE'S CALENDAR FOR 1970

Under the lottery-draft, youths who are 19 through 25 years of age as of Dec. 31, 1969, and are not deferred, will be subject to call in the sequence established by the

December 1 lottery in Washington, D. C. By the luck of that drawing, September 14 became No. 1 in the draft-priority list for 1970. The complete calendar for the year—

JANUARY			FEBRUARY			MARCH			APRIL		
Draft-Priority	Birthday	Draft-Priority	Draft-Priority	Birthday	Draft-Priority	Birthday	Draft-Priority	Birthday	Draft-Priority	Birthday	Draft-Priority
Birthday	Number	Birthday	Number	Birthday	Number	Birthday	Number	Birthday	Number	Birthday	Number
1	305	17	235	1	86	16	212	1	108	17	33
2	159	18	140	2	144	17	189	2	29	18	332
3	251	19	58	3	297	18	292	3	267	19	200
4	215	20	280	4	210	19	25	4	275	20	239
5	101	21	186	5	214	20	302	5	293	21	334
6	224	22	337	6	347	21	363	6	139	22	265
7	306	23	118	7	91	22	290	7	122	23	256
8	199	24	59	8	181	23	57	8	213	24	258
9	194	25	52	9	338	24	236	9	317	25	343
10	325	26	92	10	216	25	179	10	323	26	170
11	329	27	355	11	150	26	365	11	136	27	268
12	221	28	77	12	68	27	205	12	300	28	223
13	318	29	349	13	152	28	299	13	259	29	362
14	238	30	164	14	4	29	285	14	354	30	217
15	17	31	211	15	89			15	169	31	30
16	121			15				16	166		
MAY			JUNE			JULY			AUGUST		
Draft-Priority	Birthday	Draft-Priority	Draft-Priority	Birthday	Draft-Priority	Birthday	Draft-Priority	Birthday	Draft-Priority	Birthday	Draft-Priority
Birthday	Number	Birthday	Number	Birthday	Number	Birthday	Number	Birthday	Number	Birthday	Number
1	330	17	112	1	249	16	274	1	93	17	98
2	298	18	278	2	228	17	73	2	350	18	190
3	40	19	75	3	301	18	341	3	115	19	227
4	276	20	183	4	20	19	104	4	279	20	187
5	364	21	250	5	28	20	360	5	188	21	27
6	155	22	326	6	110	21	60	6	327	22	153
7	35	23	319	7	85	22	247	7	50	23	172
8	321	24	31	8	366	23	109	8	13	24	23
9	197	25	361	9	335	24	358	9	277	25	67
10	65	26	357	10	206	25	137	10	284	26	303
11	37	27	296	11	134	26	22	11	248	27	289
12	133	28	308	12	272	27	64	12	15	28	88
13	295	29	226	13	69	28	222	13	42	29	270
14	178	30	103	14	356	29	353	14	331	30	287
15	130	31	313	15	180	30	209	15	322	31	193
16	55			15				16	120		
SEPTEMBER			OCTOBER			NOVEMBER			DECEMBER		
Draft-Priority	Birthday	Draft-Priority	Draft-Priority	Birthday	Draft-Priority	Birthday	Draft-Priority	Birthday	Draft-Priority	Birthday	Draft-Priority
Birthday	Number	Birthday	Number	Birthday	Number	Birthday	Number	Birthday	Number	Birthday	Number
1	225	16	207	1	359	17	288	1	19	16	107
2	161	17	255	2	125	18	5	2	34	17	143
3	49	18	246	3	244	19	241	3	348	18	146
4	232	19	177	4	202	20	192	4	266	19	203
5	82	20	63	5	24	21	243	5	310	20	185
6	6	21	204	6	87	22	117	6	76	21	156
7	8	22	160	7	234	23	201	7	51	22	9
8	184	23	119	8	283	24	196	8	97	23	182
9	263	24	195	9	342	25	176	9	80	24	230
10	71	25	149	10	220	26	7	10	282	25	132
11	158	26	18	11	237	27	264	11	46	26	309
12	242	27	233	12	72	28	94	12	66	27	47
13	175	28	257	13	138	29	229	13	126	28	281
14	1	29	151	14	294	30	38	14	127	29	99
15	113	30	315	15	171	31	79	15	131	30	174
				16	254					16	96

WHEN YOUTHS HAVE THE SAME NUMBER . . .

A local board with two or more men having the same birth date must call them in the order set by a drawing of the alphabet, which followed the birthday lottery. By the luck

of that draw on December 1, men whose last names begin with "J" became No. 1, within each birth-date group. The entire sequence for 1970: